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**Joint statement from:**

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Rep. Kurt Bahr

**Lieutenant Governor, Legislative leaders  
Issue Statement Clarifying HB1490 Work Groups**

“HB1490 was designed to vest in the Education Work Groups the power to shape recommendations for academic standards absent influence from bureaucrats and politicians. Under the law, after DESE convened the initial meeting, the power shifts to the groups alone to guide themselves each month with the goal of delivering their best academic standards recommendations by Oct. 1, 2015. There exists no authority in the statute for DESE to dictate the deliberations of these work groups, nor even to guide their deliberations after the initial organizing meetings held yesterday, unless invited to do so by individual work groups.”

*Peter Kinder* *Tom Dempsey*

*Tim Jones* *Ed Emery*

*Kurt M Bahr*